REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 1-27 and 29-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Indeed, the rejection would now appear to be moot in view of the above-discussed amendment. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowability of Claim 18 [sic, Claim 28]. Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently pending claims in this application are now in immediate condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Richard L. Treanor

Customer Number 22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000 Fax: (703) 413 -2220 (OSMMN 03/06)

RLT:HAP\

Harris A. Pitlick

Registration No. 38,779